

Case No.: 56731US002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor:

KUTA, LEROY A.

Application No.:

09/883144

Group Art Unit:

1734

Filed:

June 15, 2001

Examiner:

M. Osele

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY APPLYING A FLYING

SPLICING TAPE TO A ROLL OF SHEET MATERIAL

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Wäshington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

by: Beth M. Lindblom

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449, citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of each cited reference is also enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being mailed after receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, but prior to the mailing of a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311. Please charge the fee for consideration of an Information Disclosure Statement set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 13-3723, and if necessary, please charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel 3M Innovative Properties Company

Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

Melissa E. Buss, Reg. No.: 47,465

Telephone No.: 651/733-0649

12/18/2002 GGEBREGI 00000004 133723 09883144

01 FC:1806

180.00 CH